Controller, Tamil Nadu, in May, 1989 to instruct M/s. Oslers Pharma Ltd. to send their representative to examine stocks of I.V. fluids lying with the distributor in New Delhi so that if the stocks lying with the distributor are found contaminated, as claimed by him, M/s. Oslers Pharma Ltd. may be asked to take back, and not replace the stocks, under intimation to the Drugs Controller (Delhi Administration) and the Drugs Controller (India).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Causes Of Dropouts

6185. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether may assessment has been made by the Government to recognise the cause of dropouts;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) Steps the Government propose to prevent such dropouts and to utilise the manpower of dropout children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Main reasons indentified for children dropping out of school are:

(i) Children are required to work to suplement the family income or otherwise assist their parents;

(ii) Girls have to attend to house hold chores including fetching water and looking after siblings;

(iii) Schools have inadequate facilites and insufficient instructional material;

(iv) Curriculum is perceived as not being related to local need, especially where the languages of the instructional material is unfamiliar to children speaking in dialect;

(v) Reluctance of parents to send girls of school;

(c) Some of the main steps being taken to prevent dropouts and increase participation of children in schools are:

(i) The provision of primary schools within I km. walking distance of all habitations with a population of 300. In the case of SC/ST habitations, the norm is relaxed to include habitation with population of 200;

(ii) Improvement of physical facilites in primary schools under the scheme of Operation Blackboard;

(iii) Establishment of District Institutes of Education and Training for improving teachers effectiveness;

(iv) Provision of incentives such as free uniform, free text books attendance scholarship for girls, mid-day meals etc. to socio-economically backward children.

In order to provide education to school dropouts, children from habitations without schools and children who cannot attend whole day schools, government is running the programme of Non-formal Education, under which part time eduction, of a standard comparable in quality to primary schooling, is provided to them in centres located at the convenience of the learners.